

By: Cook of Navarro

H.R. No. 328

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The exceptional efforts of Nancy Muse Taylor to
2 preserve the history of Palestine and Anderson County have enriched
3 the people of her community and Texans across the state; and

4 WHEREAS, Mrs. Taylor was born in Anderson County and educated
5 in the public schools of Palestine; in 1990 she was appointed by the
6 mayor as a charter member of the Palestine Historical Preservation
7 Commission; in addition to holding membership in that body, she
8 belongs to the Negro Historical Preservation Society and serves on
9 the Anderson County Historical Commission; and

10 WHEREAS, This highly esteemed citizen has worked
11 wholeheartedly to save the historic fabric of the area where she was
12 born and raised; for more than a decade, she has particularly
13 focused on the restoration of Mt. Vernon African Methodist
14 Episcopal (A.M.E.) Church in Palestine, the third-oldest black
15 church in the state; a member of Mt. Vernon since 1938, Mrs. Taylor
16 has taught Sunday school there and is currently serving her fellow
17 congregants as a member of the board of trustees and president of
18 the Women's Missionary Society; and

19 WHEREAS, Her first priority regarding the church was to
20 replace its leaking roof, an objective that was accomplished
21 through bake sales and donations from friends, the congregation,
22 and members of the public; determined to be an effective advocate
23 for preservation, Mrs. Taylor also attended Texas Historical
24 Commission workshops throughout the state and honed her

1 grant-writing skills to gain funding for further restoration
2 efforts; and

3 WHEREAS, In consequence of her perseverance and hard work,
4 Mt. Vernon A.M.E. Church has been designated a Recorded Texas
5 Historic Landmark and a Palestine Historic Landmark, and it is
6 listed in the National Register of Historic Places; and

7 WHEREAS, Nancy Muse Taylor has taken a leading role in
8 ensuring that the heritage of Palestine and Anderson County is
9 preserved for future generations, and through her unwavering
10 commitment to that cause, she has won the deep appreciation and
11 affection of her community; now, therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas
13 Legislature hereby recognize February 27, 2003, as Nancy Muse
14 Taylor Day in Anderson County and warmly commend Mrs. Taylor on her
15 priceless contributions to historic preservation in the Lone Star
16 State; and, be it further

17 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
18 prepared for Mrs. Taylor as an expression of high regard by the
19 Texas House of Representatives.